

Charles E. Reed
May 7, 2001

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
North Coast Region

ORDER NO. R1-2001-##*
ID NO. 1B73010OMEN

RECISION OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS

FOR

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
POINT ARENA AIR FORCE STATION, WASTEWATER TREATMENT
AND DISPOSAL FACILITY
ORDER NO. 86-70

Mendocino County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region (hereinafter Regional Water Board) finds that:

1. On January 10, 2001, the Regional Water Board received a copy of *Project Closure Report: Closure of Wastewater Treatment Plant Install Gate Point Arena Air Force Station, Point Arena, California* which describes the closure actions conducted at the Point Arena Air Force Station from October 8, 1998 to November 6, 1998. The facility is located approximately eleven miles east of the City of Point Arena in Mendocino County.
2. The Regional Water Board adopted Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 86-70 for the wastewater treatment facility on April 10, 1986. The facility consisted of two "extended aeration" package treatment plants operated in parallel and designed to treat a maximum wastewater flow of 40,000 gallons per day prior to discharge to surrounding woodlands. The wastewater collection system consisted of approximately 7,000 linear feet of sewer line and two lift stations.
3. The United States Air Force (hereinafter discharger) ceased operation of the wastewater treatment facility in 1998. As described in the *Project Closure Report*, closure activities at the site were completed by November 6, 1999. Approximately 15,000 gallons of residual wastewater liquid and sludge present in treatment tanks and lift stations at the time of closure were determined by laboratory analysis to be non-hazardous and transported for land disposal at the H-H Ranch in Point Arena. All piping, motors, wiring, valves, gauges, and railings associated with the treatment plant were removed and transported to a local landfill. All tanks and lift stations were backfilled with native soil and capped with concrete. All sewer lines were pressure washed and grout sealed.

Waste residuals from the sewer line cleaning were pumped into a vacuum truck and transported to a local landfill for disposal. Fifty-three manholes were located within the wastewater collection system. Forty-seven were pressure cleaned, grout sealed, and spot-welded to the existing frames. Six manholes were left operational to allow flow from two residences to an existing septic tank and leachfield system.

4. Based on information provided in the *Project Closure Report*, the United States Air Force has asked that Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 86-70 be rescinded.
5. The Regional Water Board actions to rescind Waste Discharge Requirements are exempt from provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code Section 21000, et seq.) in accordance with Section 15061 (b)(3), Title 14, California Code of Regulations.
6. The Regional Water Board has notified the discharger and interested parties of its intent to rescind Waste Discharge Requirements for the discharge and has provided them with the opportunity to submit their written comments and recommendations.
7. The Regional Water Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the rescission.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBE ORDERED that Order No. 86-70, Waste Discharge Requirements for United States Air Force Point Arena Air Force Station Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Facility be rescinded.

Certification

I, Lee A. Michlin, Executive Officer do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region, on May 24, 2001

Lee A Michlin
Executive Officer

*Number will be assigned when adopted